



PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON
Except Sunday.

By The Alexandria Gazette Corporation,
111 King Street, Alexandria, Va.
HOWARD W. SMITH, President and
Treasurer.
WILLIAM ALBERT SMOOT, Vice
President.
EDWIN BRADLEY HARD, Editor and
General Manager.

Entered at the Postoffice at Alexan-
dria, Virginia as second class matter.

APPROACH OF CHRISTMAS.

Christmas will be one week off tomorrow. While the coming anniversary of the birth of the Saviour is animating the younger generation, it is not anticipated with enthusiasm by their elders, who are facing serious problems. Since last Christmas the cloud of war has spread across the Atlantic Ocean and is now hovering over North America. It was hoped that our isolated situation would make us immune from the storms of the old world, but German savagery has brought war to our doors, and our country is again called to defend our liberties obtained after a seven-years' war over a century and a third ago.

Harold J. Shepherson, in the Wide World Magazine says: although much has been written upon the subject of Christmas in Bethlehem and we have had glowing accounts of its gorgeous processions and ceremonies, no one appears to have been bold enough to tell the world of the distressing scenes which may be witnessed in the one spot on earth where man would expect peace to reign at this glad season of the year. Christmas is a long business at Bethlehem. First come the Latin ceremonies, which take place on December 25, followed thirteen days later by the Greek services, while thirteen days later comes the Armenian Christmas feast. The services are held in the Church of the Nativity, one of the most remarkable edifices in the world. The Holy of Holies of the church is the Grotto or Manger. It is a small underground chamber said to be the actual site of the stable where the Saviour was born. Just in front of the altar is a silver star, set into the marble floor, said to mark the exact spot of the Nativity. In the various ceremonies the bitterest rivalry exists between the various sects, and even during the ordinary services Turkish soldiers have to be on guard day and night in the church to prevent strife. On special occasions, such as Christmas-time, an extra force of soldiers is necessary if order is to be maintained. It is during Christmas festivities that the church is cleaned. To prevent quarrels among the rival priests, the authorities many years ago set down definite rules as to what portions of the walls, pillars, floors, etc., this or that body may clean or sweep. Despite these elaborate precautions, however, trouble often arises. During the Christmas festivities of 1913 a deplorable scene was witnessed in the sacred building. Two sects disputed the right to clean a certain portion of the church. They went to the governor of Bethlehem and he decided a certain sect possessed the right to do the work. When they started to sweep, however, the rival priests flew at them and soldiers had to hold one sect back while the other did the sweeping. The country was being in the hands of the British, a new regime will doubtless be in evidence this Christmas.

GOVERNOR'S WARNING.

During the past few months a number of Alexandrians have received circulars from parties in certain cities urging them to invest in stock in different companies. In some cases the parties were importunate in endeavoring to unload stock in this city, they suggesting that if these receiving the circulars could raise no more than two hundred dollars this dividend would prove surprising. One concern which had been sending circulars to parties in this city subsequently passed into bankruptcy.

So-called commercial spies are said to invest every city. They receive so much per hundred for names sent to the managers of certain enterprises. In some cases parties in this city who were merely earning a living were supposed by their correspondents to be men of means or with a surplus of money.

Governor Stuart has issued a warning in the shape of a proclamation to the people of Virginia, which all should read, and which we take pleasure in publishing. It follows:

sure in publishing. It follows:

Governor's Office, Richmond, Virginia, December 14, 1917.
To the People of Virginia:

In view of the active and aggressive campaign now being conducted in Virginia by irresponsible agents for the sale of worthless or questionable stock in various companies, I deem it my official duty to sound a note of warning and to call attention to the fact that Virginia is the victim of such agents largely because she is one of the few States that has not so far passed a law for the punishment of the class of offenders mentioned, and specific protection of investors against such unscrupulous undertakings. With good financial returns from the year's business, it is not surprising that many citizens are being urged by oily tongued and highly trained salesmen to invest in every conceivable scheme that can be devised to separate the people from their hard earned savings.

Heavy drafts have already been made not only upon accumulated surplus but in many cases on anticipated earnings.

In addition to considerations of prudence, I would suggest that while legitimate enterprises or industries, especially such as lend themselves to preparedness for war should be duly encouraged, it is none the less true that the immediate and future needs of our country are and will be such as to absorb on safe and reasonably profitable terms the great bulk of the unorganized surplus capital in our midst. Conservation should not be confined to food and fuel but should be extended to all our resources, including money.

HENRY C. STUART, Governor.

JERUSALEM OF TODAY.

(Cleveland Plain Dealer).

It is highly probable that General Allenby could have taken Jerusalem a month or more ago. He was within easy striking distance. The enemy was demoralized by the long succession of British victories. The defense of Jerusalem offered no serious obstacle to the British artillery.

But the Christian commander did not strike. Instead of proceeding in the usual way to attack without regard for the damage to be done he pursued the laborious course of completely surrounding the city and thus compelling its surrender. The Jerusalem of today is a cesspool of filth, misery and disease; but it is the Holy City of three great religions. Its present wretchedness is the result of Turkish sloth and maladministration, and in no degree lessens its sanctity in the eyes of Jews, Christians and Mohammedans. A British bombardment of Jerusalem, even though demanded by reasons of military exigency, would have left a taint of sacrilege on Allenby's triumph.

The contrast between the British commander's forbearance and the wanton vandalism of the Germans in their treatment of sacred things is sufficiently striking. Partial destruction of Jerusalem by British artillery would have been, from a military standpoint, practically advantageous. The destruction of Rheims by the Germans has been mere needless brutality. It has been coolly devised as a shock to the religious and artistic sensibilities of the French people and of all the non-Prussianized world.

PASTOR'S PREDICTIONS.

Speaks in Washington Church on "The Crimes of Germany."

Rev. James L. Gordon, pastor of the First Congregational Church, made all sorts of predictions regarding the outcome of the war in his sermon last night on "The Crimes of Germany," based on revelations in note books of dead German soldiers.

He took as a text, Rev. 18:11, "After these things I saw another angel coming down out of heaven, having great authority; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, 'Babylon the great is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.' After telling of the contents of German diaries he summed up his predictions in this fashion:

1. A revolution in Germany.
2. That if Germany reaches Rome or Jerusalem, she will ruin and devastate them both.
3. That the German army will become demoralized through drink and sensuality.
4. That all of Germany's intense

DON'T FAIL TO ATTEND

The last Concert and Dance to be given by the Twelfth Regiment Band, Prof. Martin, Director, to be held under the auspices of the E. P. O. of Elks in the Elks' Auditorium, Alexandria, on Tuesday Evening, December 18, 1917, from 8:30 to 12 o'clock. Tickets, gentlemen, \$1.00, ladies free.

hated for England will be transferred to the United States.

6. That the war will become even more universal.

7. That before this war is over playhouses will be empty and on Sunday churches crowded.

8. An unnatural end for the Kaiser.

The "high spots" of diaries show that the German soldiers destroy and defoul everything; that every right thinking person must be filled with horror; when one sees the ravaged villages one can form some idea of the fury of German soldiers; "a spirit of pure vandalism exists; we drive people out of a village and then set it on fire;" "at every opportunity, on one pretext or another, we pillage and burn—may God have mercy on us;" "the little girl almost unnerved me, she was so innocent."

FIRE KILLS 3 SOLDIERS.

Men at Middletown Put Tar Paper Into Stove.

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 17.—Three soldiers, members of the 113th aero squadron, U. S. signal corps, lost their lives when the guard house at Middletown, where the squadron is quartered, was destroyed by fire early yesterday. The dead are:

Private E. F. Gallagher, Munhall, Pa.

Private L. Wiley, Rockford, Ill.

Private W. J. Kramer, Detroit, Mich.

Gallagher and Kramer were dead when other soldiers reached them. Wiley died later in the post hospital.

The three men, who were confined to the guard house for minor offenses, had put some tar paper in a small stove before they went to sleep and it is believed combustion followed. It is believed that the men were overcome by the fumes before the fire reached them.

Classified Advertising

LOST—Saturday night a pocketbook containing \$11.00, trunk key, the owners card and photograph. Reward if returned to Hattie L. Gantt, care Alexandria Gazette, 300-31.

LOST—A watch, on Sunday, going from Pitt street to the Methodist Church South, or from there to the 200 block on south St. Asaph street. Return to 510 King street and get reward. 300-31.

Rooms and Board—Front room on first and second floor, with or without board. Terms reasonable. Apply at 220 north Columbus street. 298-31.

LOST—A pocketbook, corner Washington and Columbus streets, containing \$12.00 in bills, some small change, and five R. F. and P. railroad passes. Please return to Russell Jenkins, 507 north Columbus street and receive reward. 298-31.

WANTED—Gentleman desires room, or room and board, in good home; must have modern conveniences, bath, etc., and will be permanent. Call phone 820, Alexandria, and give full particulars. 298-31.

BOOKKEEPER WANTED—Must be accurate and experienced. Permanent position. Alexandria County Lighting Co., 524 King street. 300-31.

WANTED—By young lady, in good home; must have modern conveniences, bath, etc., in good location. Give particulars to Phone 820, Alexandria. 298-31.

Wanted—Janitor who is first class furnace man, good wages. M. L. Horner, 612 King street. 300-31.

WANTED—To buy at once, 6,000 pairs of old shoes and old clothes of all kinds. Good prices paid. Call at 411 Cameron street, Alexandria. W. W. Simpson. 297-31.

WANTED—Young lady as office clerk. Apply between the hours of 12 and 2 p. m. Continental Life Insurance Co., 228 South Alfred street, Alexandria. 296-11.

AUTO FOR HIRE—Touring, or truck, for hauling. Reasonable rates. Will go anywhere at any time. Call phone 375, J. Alexander's. 296-31.

FOR RENT—Three rooms, suitable for light house keeping. Terms reasonable. Apply 605 Princess street. 300-31.

APPLES! APPLES! APPLES!

No Christmas present more acceptable to anybody and everybody than a box of our fine Albermarle Pippins, the favorite apple of the late Queen Victoria and of the present Royal family of England. A box of our mountain grown Winesaps. All carefully selected, wrapped and packed. We sell, too, by the barrel or the carload. Our apples have not been in cold storage. \$2.50 and \$4.00 per box. The Albermarle Orchard Co., Charlottesville, Va. 298-31.



A Christmas Greeting by Telegraph

carries with it a feeling of spontaneous warmth and a sense of personal nearness which no other form of communication conveys.

A 50-word Night Letter affords ample scope for the fullest expression.

The boys in camp, particularly, will welcome a Christmas telegram.

WESTERN UNION

Telegrams—Day Letters—Night Letters
Cablegrams—Money Transferred by Wire

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.

Let your Christmas Gifts to your relatives and friends be a good photograph. Place your portrait for your boy, in the Christmas package from home.

Make the appointment today.

NOTICE—We take photos day and night.

White Front Studio,

605 King Street.

Alexandria, Va.

Loch and Bennett, Proprietors.

SECRET DIPLOMACY.

Vorwaerts Asks What Was to be Offered to England.

Amsterdam, Dec. 17.—The Berlin socialist paper Vorwaerts, commenting on the alleged attempts to open preliminary peace discussions between Great Britain and Germany, demands that the government tell the German people what it intended to communicate to Great Britain.

Attacking secret diplomacy, the paper suggests that both governments are afraid to take the initiative, lest it be considered a sign of hidden weakness.

"When will it be realized," the paper asks, "that it is a great honor, instead of a disgrace, to strive with the enemy for a means for reconciliation with freedom and self-respect to end this insane human slaughter?"

The Frankfurter Zeitung says: "Balfour did not say whether Britain was still willing to discuss the question, but there is no apparent reason why there should be a change. It is worth something that Britain formally declares her readiness for such discussion."



Insure the home NOW—don't wait another day. Let the season in which most fires occur inspire through this Agency means. A LIFE PROTECTION at regular rates.

LAURENCE STABLER

415 Prince Street, Alexandria, Va.



HAD WHISKY BELT.

Negro Turned Over to Federal Authorities by City Police.

James Gimes, colored, an alleged bootlegger, was given a hearing in the Richmond Police Court yesterday morning and turned over to Federal authorities for further attention. When captured by Policeman Frasier the negro had a belt under his clothing in which he carried nine pints of whisky. He dropped a grip with twenty-nine pints at the beginning of a chase which the officer gave him.

"The Store of Greater Service"

AND BROS.

Washington, D. C.

Veiling and Veils of the Most Desirable Kinds

Chiffon Motor Veils come in all the best shades that are so popular. At \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$1.75.

Drapes, Circulars or long Veils to suit all shaped hats. And the hats certainly require a veil to be up to the minute. Priced at \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00 and \$3.50.

See Our 70c Special Lacy Veil in all the wanted shades such as black, purple, taupe and brown \$1.00 value, at 70c.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS HERE in splendid variety. There are rings, pins, pendants, bracelets, necklaces, watches, clocks, and a hundred other gift suggestions from which all can select with a surety of obtaining an article of merit and genuine value. We will reserve any article selected until needed if so requested.

Saunders & Son

629 King Street.

10 to 12 Per Cent Investments

806-808 Pendleton street, 2 six room frames. Rents for \$8.00 each per month, with water rents extra. Price \$800 each.

1107 Queen street, good six room frame dwelling, newly papered and painted. Always rented for \$10 per month and water extra. Price \$900 on easy terms.

1213-1215-1217 Queen street, 3 six room frames. Rents for \$8.00 each water rent extra. Price \$900 each.

313-315 north St. Asaph street, 2 eight room frame dwellings. Rent for \$25 per month. Good location and a fine investment at \$1,600 for both houses.

213-215-217 Peyton street, 4 room frames. Rents for \$5.00 each per month. Price \$600 each.

532 north Columbus street, 6 room frame, sewer tapped. Rents for \$12.00 per month. Price \$1,250.

724-726 north Columbus street, 6 room frames. Price \$1,500.

Store and dwelling 531 north Alfred street, corner Pendleton. Dwelling 8 rooms and bath. Rents for \$16 per month. Price \$1,600.

Further Particulars of J. D. NORMOYLE

Real Estate and Renting Agent,

Corner King and Royal Streets.

Bell Phone 564.

Notary Public.

M. L. Horner, Telephone 269, 612 King St.

Automobile Insurance

against

THEFT, FIRE, LIABILITY, INJURY, PROPERTY-DAMAGE, ETC.,

M. L. Horner, Telephone 269, 612 King St.

Worth Hulfish, Established 1844 David N. Hulfish, President and Treasurer. by James F. Carlin, Sec'y and Manager

CARLIN-HULFISH COMPANY, INC.,

Wholesale Hardware

KNIVES and FORKS, CARVING SETS, LADIES' SCISSORS, MEAT CHOPPERS, LANTERNS, FLASH LIGHTS, LOADED SHELLS, SHOT-GUNS and RIFLES, GENUINE MALTA PLOWS, BARB WIRE, HORSE SHOES, WIRE NAILS, RUBBER ROOFING.

315 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CONSUMERS OF COAL

At the direction of the Fuel Administrator for Virginia, an order has been issued to the retail dealers of coal in this city and county, not to deliver coal to household consumers, in quantities in excess of two tons and then only when the consumer's supply on hand is two tons or less. This will make the maximum quantity of four tons at any one time. To larger consumers, deliveries are not to be made in quantities greater than the actual needs of the consumers for fifteen days, and then only when the consumer's supply on hand is less than their requirements for fifteen days. This will make the maximum quantity held by larger consumers of any one time only sufficient for their actual needs for thirty days or less. Industries buying coal in carload lots must obtain special permit from the Fuel Administrator.

To make this order effective, and to relieve the dealer of the responsibility and difficulty of ascertaining the supply any consumer has on hand, it is arranged that an affidavit be furnished by the purchasers of coal in excess of one-half ton (this affidavit can be made by any member of the family over sixteen years of age). These forms for making the affidavits will be in the hands of the dealers, and notaries and the affidavits will be taken without charge, by any one of the following notaries public, who have offered their services to aid the Commission in this work: Miss Gladys M. Brooks, room 1, Alexandria National bank building, 19 C. Drury, 107 south Royal street; J. L. Burke, Burke and Hervey, Miss Cornelia, Office, Clerk of Court, Courthouse; H. Davis, 121 south Royal street; Claude H. Crump, 1301 King street; M. L. Dinwiddie, Citizens National Bank; J. J. Green, First National Bank; E. J. Fleming, 119 south Fairfax street; A. C. Morse, Alexandria National Bank.

By order of ALBERT BRYAN, D. N. RUST, JR., GEO. E. WARFIELD, Fuel Commission, Alexandria city and county.